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Patricia Hackney
70 Hau'oli St., #214
Wailuku, Maui, HI 96793
pattitator@yahoo.com



October 14, 2004

Federal Communications Commission
445 12th St., SW
Washington, DC 20554

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RE: Docket #04-233

I want to comment on the docket regarding local media. It is vital that the regulators keep foremost in mind that the airwaves are public, and that those using them are required to serve the public interest. Those facts get lost in the scramble for consolidation and profit. Diverse information flow and a broad spectrum of access is vital to a free flow of ideas. Licensees like Clear Channel and Sinclair Broadcasting hurt diversity, restrict access to the airwaves, and even weaken democracy itself by controlling too much of the airwaves. They are using that control for political and personal gain, not the public good.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on this docket. Your work is important to our country. Responsible and active regulation is badly needed.

Sincerely,

Patricia Hackney
Patricia Hackney

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